

Willimantic Waste Paper Co. Inc.  
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To the members of the Energy and Technology committee:

My name is Tom DeVivo. On behalf of Willimantic Waste Paper Co Inc, my family's business, I would like to discuss with you our concerns about raised bill # 5597.

First, I would like to provide you with a little history about my company. Willimantic Waste Paper is a family owned business, located in Willimantic CT. My grandfather started the business in 1940 as a rag and paper dealer. My father expanded the business into a large-scale recycler in the seventies. They pioneer recycling efforts in Connecticut well before it was fashionable or so called "Environmentally Green". Today, our company recycles over 100,000 tons a year of all types of commodities, from scrap metal, plastics, glass, wood, paper and such. We have over 250 employees in Eastern Connecticut. We have become a fully integrated waste recycler serving over 45 communities in Connecticut.

In one of our facilities, we operate a volume reduction facility for mixed construction & demolition waste; otherwise know as C&D waste. Using our past practices, we would reduce the material in size and ship it to a landfill - out of state. We always felt that this was the wrong approach to handling this material and knew there was a better way.

In 2005, we decided to do something about it. We purchase a state of the art sorting system for C&D waste materials. Our investment was in the range of \$3,000,000.00  
It is one of the largest systems on the East Coast. The system is designed to sort out recyclable materials from mixed C&D waste. It is 400 feet long and is capable of recycling scrap metal, cardboard, paper, plastics, clean fill, clean wood and shingles. The system was also designed to handle other recyclable materials such as sheetrock, so in the future when markets are developed, we will be able accommodate them. We typically can achieve a 90% recoverable rate on the materials we recycle from the mixed C&D waste stream.

Under current legislation, we are able to ship our sorted construction and demolition wood to an electricity generating plant, where it is burned as fuel. This plant accepts only clean, chipped wood, as they have strict standards for emissions.

This proposed bill will harm us by restricting our ability to ship the clean construction and demolition wood to electricity burning plants. This bill would limit our ability to recycle wood waste and would force us to revert to the old fashion method of land filling this reusable commodity.

I would like to thank-you for your time and offer any committee member to take a tour of our facility and see for yourself what this is all about. You will see how clean the wood waste product is, and how carefully it is sorted. The brochure that I have here has a picture of our facility - we would welcome the chance to show you in person what we are doing.

Thank-you

Tom DeVivo